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physical transport means L (e.g., in preparation for transmission to another node). Conversely, the reassembly subunit RSU of each node serves, e.g., to reassemble user data packets or frames from AAL2 packets which are received (in the context of the user plane protocol stack 100) over physical transport means L from another node.

REMARKS

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page(s) is captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.**"

Respectfully submitted,
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

October 30, 2001

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Technology Center 2600

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, beginning at line 16 through line 29 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Each of the nodes N₁ and N₂ [include] includes a segmentation/reassembly unit (SRU), segmentation/reassembly unit SRU₁ and segmentation/reassembly unit SRU₂ being shown for respective nodes N₁ and N₂. [The segmentation/reassembly unit (SRU),] In segmentation/reassembly unit SRU₁ and segmentation/reassembly unit SRU₂, segmentation/reassembly is [are] performed as part of an application above an Internet Protocol (IP) host in the respective nodes N₁ and N₂. Each segmentation/reassembly unit SRU comprises a segmentation subunit SSU and a reassembly subunit RSU. The segmentation subunit SSU of each node serves, e.g., to map user data packets or frames into AAL2 packets in a manner suitable to implement the user plane protocol stack 100 in the course of preparing packets for application to the physical transport means L (e.g., in preparation for transmission to another node). Conversely, the reassembly subunit RSU of each node serves, e.g., to reassemble user data packets or frames from AAL2 packets which are received (in the context of the user plane protocol stack 100) over physical transport means L from another node.